1/5/70

Dear Mary,

Many thanks for the carbon of your 12/31 letter to Paul and the great kindness reflected therein.

Today I sent my last copy of the first part of COUP to Paul. It is from microfilm and I suspect would be too small if reproduced half-size. However, I have another copy the return of which I do expect. When I get it I will be sending it to Paul for this kind of copying. The copy I expect back is on legal-sized paper and will take the reduction, as the sample he apparently sent you shows. The alternative, making it from the copy he will have, for a special purpose, would cost twice as much.

Alas, these things have a way of disappearing.

You knew Bud was going to file some suits for me. I have drafted an addition, incomplete but sufficient for my agent to know whether there is any chance of attracting any media interest in it. I will soon be fleshing it out. When it is completed, I will also be sending that to Paul. I hope by that time to have completed the annotation of the appendix, which is sizeable, and if I have I will also include that.

Mary, some of those calling themselves conservatives when they are something else (conservative to me being respectable and necessary byt this something else a very radical extreme) are not going to like parts of this. I am not apologizing, I have no apologies, I believe it is quite accurate and the opinions at least warranted, and the people involved terrible. Benabez, for one example. He and Bringuier are no more "conservatives" than J.B. Stoner, of Shelton. And they are the real commercializers. It is not for this reason but for others that I want these limited editions-and you can have any you want-to go no further than you. I want not only to preserve for myself the sweat of my own brow, but I want to control its use to see to it that it will not be used for mere sensation or with what I would regard as a wrong doctrine.

I did get the second copy of the book. It took two weeks or more to reach me. But Bud had given me one, so I sent that to a Canadian colleague. So, again thanks, but spend no more money on it.

By the way, we have the mircofilm of the Texas "investigation", if you do not have it. Largely crap, entirely incomplete and inadequate. I intend giving it to Paul, but if you would like to borrow it, please let me know.

Whenever Bud completes drafting the papers, which may be promptly or may be a couple of months, we'll file the first suit. On the second, the question is limiting it and deciding what to eliminate, for were we to sue for everything, it would be an enormous thing.

Thanks for the good wishes. Hope we all of us have a better year. You, too! All of us!

Sincerely,